United Nations S/2010/675

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 December 2010

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/30) and Security Council resolution 1872 (2009), and as specified in paragraph 20 of resolution 1910 (2010), in which the Council requested me to report on all aspects of the resolution every four months. This report provides an update on major developments in Somalia since my report of 9 September 2010 (S/2010/447) and assesses the political, security, human rights and humanitarian situation as well as progress made in implementing the United Nations strategy for Somalia. The report also covers the operational activities of the United Nations and the international community, as well as developments in counter-piracy activities.

II. Main developments in Somalia

A. Political developments

2. During the reporting period, serious differences prevailed between the President, Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, and the former Prime Minister, Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, over the management of the transition in general, and the performance of the Cabinet and the constitution-making process in particular. As a result of these tensions, the Prime Minister resigned on 21 September.

3. On 14 October, President Sharif announced the appointment of Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed as the new Prime Minister of Somalia. A dispute ensued between the President and the Speaker of Parliament, Hassan Sharif, around the mode of endorsement of the Prime Minister-designate. While the President favoured an open vote, the Speaker insisted on a secret ballot, on the basis of different interpretations of Parliament's rules of procedure.

4. My Special Representative travelled to Mogadishu on several occasions to try and diffuse these tensions. He also delivered a unified message from the United Nations, the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the international community at large, urging the Somali leaders to resolve their differences to allow the formation of a government. Following the mediation by my Special Representative and regional partners, Parliament confirmed Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed as the Prime Minister on 31 November through an open vote.

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5. In a follow-up visit to Mogadishu on 6 November, my Special Representative met with the President, the Speaker and the new Prime Minister to discuss the formation of a new government, the implementation of the remaining transitional tasks, and the development of a clear political road map, in particular with respect to reconciliation and outreach initiatives and the completion of an inclusive constitution-making process.

6. On 12 November, Prime Minister Abdullahi Mohamed proposed a lean cabinet of 18 Ministers, including a female Minister, drawn mainly from the diaspora. The Cabinet was endorsed by Parliament on 27 November. The Prime Minister has stated that he will focus, as a matter of priority, on the constitution-making process and reaching out to the armed opposition groups through dialogue. Subsequently, the Prime Minister issued a draft political road map, in response to a request made by the International Contact Group on Somalia in Madrid, outlining his Government's vision for the management of the transitional period, which is set to end in August 2011. These include the establishment of oversight and accountability mechanisms for the Transitional Federal Government, audit of the Somali civil service, establishment of a committee of highly respected Somalis to advise on the post-transitional political dispensation as part of the constitutional process, and the strengthening of security institutions. My Special Representative and the United Nations country team were consulted on the road map on 7 December.

7. On 26 September, Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a (ASWJ) announced the collapse of talks with the Transitional Federal Government and its decision not to participate in the new government. Subsequently, President Sharif stated that his Government would continue to honour the agreement with ASWJ and called on ASWJ to do the same. Despite some internal differences in respect of the implementation of the agreement, ASWJ has not withdrawn from the government, with two of its members appointed in the new Cabinet.

8. In "Somaliland", following the successful elections of June 2010, the House of Elders extended the term of office of the House of Representatives for two years and eight months, and the term of the local councils for one and half years.

9. In late September, the United States announced a "dual track" approach to Somalia, which would seek to strengthen ties with "Somaliland" and "Puntland" in order to stem the growing threat posed by extremists from southern central Somalia. Both autonomous regions welcomed the announcement and have stepped up cooperation to address extremist threats and to amicably resolve territorial disputes over the areas of Sool and Sanaag.

B. Security situation

10. In September 2010, troops of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) foiled an attempted suicide attack on their base at the international airport in Mogadishu. In recent weeks, despite continued attacks by insurgent forces, the Transitional Federal Government and AMISOM forces have made some territorial gains in Mogadishu. In central Somalia, the Transitional Federal Government relies on its alliance with ASWJ for control of the Hiraan, Galguduud and Mudug regions. Overall, however, the security situation in southern and central Somalia remained fragile and unpredictable during the reporting period, which led

to a cessation of most humanitarian activities in southern Somalia, while in Mogadishu, humanitarian operations were limited to critical lifesaving activities.

11. Since mid-October, fighting between pro-Transitional Federal Government militias and Al-Shabaab over Bula Hawa, a strategic town near the Kenyan and Ethiopian borders, threatened to spill over into Kenya, while causing considerable disruption to living conditions, especially for the population located on the Somali side of border. The consequences from the merger between Al-Shabaab and Hizbul-Islam, reported on 19 December 2010, are still unknown.

12. Notwithstanding the security measures taken by the "Puntland" authorities, there are some indications that Al-Shabaab and other insurgent groups are active in the region, while issues such as clan affiliation and irregular salary payments continue to undermine the loyalty of local security forces.

13. In "Somaliland" the security situation has shown some improvement and, as a result, the security phase in some areas was downgraded to Security Phase Three in September 2010. Meanwhile, United Nations access remains limited in the disputed regions of Sool and Sanaag.

C. Piracy

14. On 27 October, I submitted my report on piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia pursuant to resolution 1897 (2009) (S/2010/556). On 23 November, the Security Council adopted resolution 1950 (2010), which renewed for a period of 12 months the authorization given to States and regional organizations cooperating with the Transitional Federal Government to combat piracy off the coast of Somalia.

15. With the passing of the monsoon season, pirates have intensified their attacks on ships at sea. While the effectiveness of naval disruption operations has increased and more pirates have been arrested and prosecuted, as indicated in my report pursuant to Security Council resolution 1897 (2009) (S/2010/556), the level of violence employed by the pirates as well as their reach has increased. Reports from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) indicate that as of 30 November, 519 people and 22 vessels were being held hostage in Somalia.

16. The Second Regional Ministerial Conference on Piracy, held in Mauritius on 7 October 2010, adopted a regional strategy and a rolling regional plan of action that provides for a regional framework to prevent and combat piracy and promote maritime security.

17. As part of the implementation of the Djibouti Code of Conduct, IMO convened in November a subregional meeting to conclude agreements on the establishment of the Sana'a information-sharing centre and network. Together with the information-sharing centres in Mombasa, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, the centre in Sana'a will facilitate communication related to counter-piracy among States in the area of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and signatories to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, including Somalia.

18. On 10 November, following its seventh plenary meeting, the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia stated its intention to hold an ad hoc meeting of experts to look into the financial aspects of piracy before the next plenary and agreed that the Gulf of Aden should remain the key focus of international

operations. The Contact Group also welcomed the effort by the United Nations to reinvigorate the Somali contact group on counter-piracy, also known as the "Kampala process".

19. The Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia has proved to be a useful instrument for supporting initiatives countering piracy. As of 22 November, the Trust Fund has supported seven projects in the areas of support to prosecution and communications, totalling $2.4 million.

20. On 15 October, the African Union Peace and Security Council urged the Security Council to approach the issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia in a holistic manner, with the view to effectively addressing its underlying causes and other equally serious threats which affect the livelihood and well-being of the Somali people, in particular, illegal fishing and the dumping of toxic substances and waste off the coast of Somalia.

21. Since taking up his functions on 25 August, my Special Adviser on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, Jack Lang, has met with a wide range of stakeholders, including in the region, to identify additional steps that can be taken to achieve and sustain substantive results in prosecuting piracy. I look forward to receiving Mr. Lang's recommendations at the conclusion of his mandate.

D. Humanitarian situation

22. There has been a marked, but fragile, improvement of the humanitarian situation in Somalia owing to two good rainy seasons and the resulting exceptionally high harvests. However, these tenuous improvements are threatened by dry weather conditions and an upsurge in conflict which started concurrently in August and continued to intensify until the end of the year.

23. The latest findings from the July to December 2010 assessment of the United Nations Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit revealed that nearly 2 million Somalis are in need of assistance. This represents a 25 per cent decrease in 2010 owing to the combination of a good harvest and a more accurate system of documenting internally displaced persons. The reporting period also saw an increase in cereal production, the highest in Somalia in 15 years, and improved conditions in the livestock sector. Notwithstanding the good harvest, 27 per cent of the population still faces a humanitarian crisis.

24. The national prevalence rate of malnourished children has reduced to 230,000 persons during the reporting period. Nearly 90 per cent of malnourished children are in the southern central regions where humanitarian access is the most challenging, although Boosaaso experiences the highest malnutrition rate in the country.

25. The number of civilians displaced and wounded in the conflict has increased, with more than 44,000 people displaced during the third quarter of the year and an additional 65,000 in the last quarter. Of the 54,000 people displaced from Mogadishu between August and November, 32,000 fled the city, and 22,000 relocated to relatively calmer areas of the city. In late October, clashes between Al-Shabaab and pro-government forces displaced thousands of people from Belet Hawo, many of whom crossed into Kenya.

26. Meanwhile, a revamped mapping process has enabled the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to revise the total number of internally displaced persons in Somalia from 1.41 million to 1.46 million. These figures take into account data on settlements within the Mogadishu periphery that was previously unavailable. The estimated number of internally displaced persons along the Afgooye corridor has increased to 410,000 persons, up from 366,000. In addition, eviction of internally displaced persons from privately owned sites in Afgooye continued, as landowners earn more from commercial use of the land than from rents extracted from internally displaced persons. On a much smaller scale, Hizbul-Islam has reportedly forcibly evicted internally displaced persons in Afgooye for military purposes.

27. In Mogadishu, the number of civilian casualties continues to increase. From September to November, approximately 1,600 weapon-related casualties, including 127 children under 5, were reported in Mogadishu. With the ongoing conflict in Mogadishu and southern central Somalia, health workers continue to face constraints in providing basic health services. On 22 August, a United Nations National Officer was shot and killed in Mogadishu by a stray bullet while on duty.

28. As of mid-November, the 2010 consolidated appeals process was 62 per cent funded, having received $367 million of $596 million required. However key lifesaving sectors, such as water, sanitation and hygiene, health and nutrition remain under 50 per cent funded. Meanwhile, the 2011 consolidated appeal for Somalia was launched on 1 December, with total requirements of $532 million.

E. Human rights and protection of civilians

29. There was no improvement in the human rights situation in southern and central Somalia during the reporting period. High levels of civilian casualties arising from fighting in civilian areas in Mogadishu and parts of the central region continued. Hospitals reported being stretched to the limit and at times having difficulties coping with the flow of injured persons due to shelling and crossfire. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee protection cluster database recorded more than 1,000 killings in Mogadishu since January. The protection of civilians by all parties has increasingly become a focus of discussions. AMISOM and the African Union committed themselves to taking measures to prevent civilian casualties and to investigate allegations made against the troops at a special session of the Human Rights Council on Somalia in September and in meetings with United Nations officials.

30. On 27 October, two teenage girls, reported to be from 15 to 18 years of age, were publicly executed by Al-Shabaab in Beledweyne. They were accused of spying and were not subject to due process, in violation of international and regional human rights standards. Other reported cases of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment included at least four individuals accused of theft who had their hands amputated and several cases of whipping related to allegations of theft or failure to obey codes of behaviour imposed by Al-Shabaab.

31. Somali human rights defenders continued to face enormous constraints, challenges and threats in carrying out their work. At a meeting in September, human rights defenders from southern and central Somalia agreed to form a national coalition and began identifying capacity-building gaps and needs.

32. The media continued to be subjected to severe restrictions in areas controlled by Al-Shabaab and Hizbul-Islam. In September, Al-Shabaab and Hizbul-Islam, respectively, seized control of two independent radio stations, Horn of Africa and the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, in Mogadishu. Throughout the reporting period, multiple threats against reporters and journalists continued in southern central Somalia, forcing some to flee.

33. Internally displaced persons and refugees fleeing southern Somalia continued to report abuses by militias manning checkpoints before they reached safe areas, including rape, beatings and looting. Visits to settlements for internally displaced persons by the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights in September and by my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict in November highlighted the continuing urgent need for extensive support for basic services and the need to address protection concerns. Threats of relocation were also causing anxiety among internally displaced persons in Boosaaso.

34. Collection of data on sexual violence remains a challenge owing mainly to underreporting. Gang rape, a relatively new phenomenon in Somalia, is occurring more often, including in "Puntland" and "Somaliland", with many cases taking place within settlements for internally displaced persons. Assessments conducted this year indicate that the most frequently recorded age group of survivors of sexual violence is 13 to 24 years of age. Female heads of household, women and girls with disabilities, and unaccompanied minors have been identified as the most vulnerable.

35. Reports of forcible repatriations to Mogadishu from Saudi Arabia continue, despite calls by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The number of documented cases increased in 2010 compared with 2009, with more than 4,000 people estimated to have been repatriated between July and October. In early November, UNHCR made an urgent appeal to the Kenyan authorities to immediately halt forcible returns of Somalis from the Mandera refugee camp after local authorities ordered the more than 8,000 refugees to cross back into Somalia. The refugees, comprising mainly women and children, are currently situated in a no-man's land between the Kenyan and Somali borders, with limited assistance provided by local residents and the humanitarian community.

36. In September, the Somali Deputy Prime Minister attended the special session of the Human Rights Council on Somalia, at which he committed to engage in the Council's Universal Periodic Review process. The "Puntland" administration has expressed its wish to collaborate with the Transitional Federal Government on its universal periodic review report. Prior to the Human Rights Council session on Somalia, the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the country for the first time. Meanwhile, the Act establishing the "Somaliland" Human Rights Commission was promulgated on 30 October.

F. Child protection

37. The recruitment and use of children for direct participation in hostilities in southern and central Somalia continues to be of major concern. Partners on the ground consistently reported extensive forced recruitment of children by Al-Shabaab, with an estimated 2,000 children being trained in camps in southern Somalia. There were also a few reported cases of children captured by the Government/AMISOM forces, as well as cases of children who defected.

38. My Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, Radhika Coomaraswamy, visited Somalia and Kenya in November to assess progress made in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009). During her visit, Ms. Coomaraswamy had discussions with the Transitional Federal Government, regional authorities in "Somaliland" and "Puntland", United Nations presences on the ground, as well as key protection partners. The Prime Minister committed to appoint a high-level focal point to work with the United Nations towards the development of an action plan to address the issue of child recruitment. The AMISOM Force Commander, in turn, agreed to an offer by the United Nations to support the developing of standard operating procedures on the handover and care arrangements for defecting and captured children.

39. During the reporting period, 27 children were reportedly killed and 68 maimed, mostly in Mogadishu, as a result of the hostilities. Eleven cases of rape and sexual violence against children committed by parties to the conflict were reported in southern central Somalia.

III. Resource mobilization

40. My Special Representative continues to engage with the international community on mobilizing resources for the Transitional Federal Government and AMISOM. Since my last report, payments against confirmed Brussels pledges have increased to $150 million, thanks to an additional contribution of $500,000 from the Government of Turkey to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of AMISOM.

41. The European Union agreed to continue to provide financial support to AMISOM for the period from July to December 2010. In accordance with the present agreement, the European Union will provide an additional €47 million to the African Union, bringing total allocation to AMISOM to €142 million since 2007. The provisions cover personnel costs and operational running costs.

IV. Activities of the United Nations and the international community

A. International support

42. On 23 September, on the margins of the General Assembly, I convened a mini-summit on Somalia to galvanize international support and mobilize resources for the Transitional Federal Government and AMISOM. President Sharif outlined the major security challenges his Government was facing and presented a list of actions his Government planned to undertake, which included enacting a constitution and promoting national unity. The President called for greater humanitarian assistance and support to address piracy through the development of security forces and the training of coast guards.

43. The International Contact Group on Somalia held its eighteenth meeting in Madrid on 27 and 28 September. My Special Representative co-chaired the meeting with the representatives of Norway and the United States of America. President Sharif opened the meeting, alongside the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain. Among other things, the meeting called on: the Transitional

Federal Government to develop a road map, within 60 days, outlining the management of the remaining transitional period; the transitional federal institutions to intensify efforts to complete the transitional tasks before 20 August 2011; and the Transitional Federal Government to increase its outreach and reconciliation towards groups and entities that remain outside the Djibouti peace process.

44. In a press statement issued on 8 October, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Jean Ping, announced the appointment of Jerry John Rawlings as the High Representative of the African Union for Somalia. This appointment was a follow-up to the decision on the report of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its fifteenth ordinary session, held in Kampala in July 2010. The mandate of Mr. Rawlings is to mobilize support to promote peace and reconciliation in Somalia and to generate greater attention from the international community.

45. At its meeting on 15 October, the African Union Peace and Security Council considered the situation in Somalia, where it called for the speedy formation of a new government; the development of a road map for the management of the remaining transition period; and the completion of the outstanding transitional tasks, including the drafting of the constitution. The Council called on the Transitional Federal Government to urgently adopt the draft national security and stabilization plan and the recommendations of the Security Sector Assessment Report. It also requested the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, through his High Representative for Somalia, to broaden consultations with "Somaliland" and "Puntland", as part of the overall efforts to promote stability in those regions and further peace and reconciliation in Somalia as a whole.

46. From 15 to 18 November, an African Union-sponsored conference was held in Bujumbura to discuss African Union support to the implementation of the Djibouti Peace Process. The meeting called on the Transitional Federal Government to continue its reconciliation efforts and prioritize the conclusion of the constitution-making process, and called upon the international community to provide adequate and predictable resources to AMISOM and the Transitional Federal Government.

B. Constitution-making process

47. The United Nations continued to support Somalia's efforts to draft a new constitution. Following the official launch in August of a broad-based popular consultation on the draft constitution, President Sharif requested that the process be put on hold pending his appointment of the National Advisory Council to review the draft. The 16-member Advisory Council, composed of independent Somali experts, was appointed in early November, and it will work with the United Nations and the Independent Federal Constitution Commission. Given the fast-approaching end of the transitional period, my Special Representative, the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) and the United Nations country team are engaged in efforts to facilitate a genuine, wide-ranging process of consultations in order to bring to conclusion the constitution-making process.

48. In this connection, the United Nations organized a Joint Strategic Planning Workshop in Nairobi in November, with the participation of the African Union, IGAD and the Independent Federal Constitution Commission. The workshop aimed at

articulating a shared vision among key actors on the way forward for the constitution-making process, including the development of a joint workplan for the support activities of UNPOS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

49. It is anticipated that the popular consultations will provide guidance on contentious issues, such as the system of government (whether presidential or parliamentary), federalism, gender equality in the Somali context, the status of Mogadishu as the capital of Somalia, the interpretation and application of sharia law, and the nature of the national security forces.

50. With the support of constitutional experts on women's rights in Islam, the United Nations facilitated a workshop for the gender audit of the draft constitution. Under the chairmanship of the Minister of Gender and Family Care of Somalia, members of the Independent Federal Constitution Commission, parliamentarians, and representatives of women's organizations from "Puntland", "Somaliland" and southern central Somalia, gathered in Nairobi to review the draft constitution from a gender perspective. A series of recommendations aimed at securing women's social and political rights were agreed and submitted to the Independent Federal Constitution Commission for incorporation into the final constitution.

C. Other activities

51. During the reporting period, UNDP provided tuition courses for 86 students from "Somaliland" and "Puntland" to enhance their capacities to manage public finances. The United Nations supported "Somaliland" in establishing the inter-ministerial Public Reform Committee established by "Somaliland" authorities in September. It also supported the efforts of the Civil Service Commission to establish the current human resource levels in every "Somaliland" ministry and to identify staffing needs for those institutions. The United Nations also collaborated with the Ministries of Commerce in "Puntland" and "Somaliland" to establish units to facilitate a conducive environment for foreign investment, formulate public-private partnership policies and assess the capacities of the private sector to generate long-term employment.

52. The United Nations is supporting the capacity development of the Ministries of Education of the Transitional Federal Government, "Somaliland" and "Puntland" to reform the education sector. The programme will contribute to building the capacity of the respective Ministries to effectively plan, manage and deliver educational services. With a view to helping establish working relations between the Transitional Federal Government and "Puntland" authorities on media issues, UNPOS organized a two-week seminar in Garoowe that was attended by high-ranking officials from the Transitional Federal Government and "Puntland".

V. Implementation of resolution 1910 (2010)

A. Establishment of the United Nations presence in Somalia and "light footprint" in Mogadishu

53. The United Nations continued to expand its footprint in Mogadishu, with 61 missions conducted by international staff from the United Nations Support Office

for the African Union Mission in Somalia, UNPOS, the United Nations Mine Action Service, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNDP and the Department of Safety and Security during the reporting period. The average United Nations presence in "Somaliland" is 50 international and 400 national Staff.

54. With logistical support from UNSOA, UNPOS is in the process of establishing a forward liaison office in Mogadishu. A Head of Office and a Civil Affairs Officer have been recruited and will be deployed on a rotational basis, security permitting. Staff accommodation in Mogadishu remains limited, despite a recent increase in available space at the UNMAS compound and in the number of temporary slots.

55. UNPOS has been using office space, support services and staff accommodation facilities provided by the United Nations country team in Hargeysa and Garoowe, and UNSOA expects to complete the work on UNPOS facilities in both locations over the next few months. Meanwhile, roughly half of the international posts for the UNPOS regional offices in Hargeysa and Garoowe are encumbered. UNSOA has now started to deploy staff in these regions on short-term missions to support the establishment by UNPOS of a regional office.

B. Review of the strategy for Somalia and the United Nations coordinated approach

56. Consistent with the recommendations of the review mission conducted by the Somalia Integrated Task Force in June, the collaboration and coordination between UNPOS and the United Nations country team have steadily improved. A Senior Policy Group, comprising the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator and the Director of UNSOA, was established in July and has been meeting regularly ever since. The Senior Policy Group provides strategic guidance to all United Nations presences in Somalia on political, security, development and humanitarian issues.

57. A Joint Planning Unit was also established in September to support the Senior Policy Group and foster the necessary linkages and coherence between UNPOS and the United Nations country team and make their collective efforts in Somalia more effective. The Joint Planning Unit has also initiated preparations for the integrated strategic framework process for Somalia, which is expected to start in early 2011.

58. The United Nations country team undertook further consultations on its assistance strategy for Somalia, which outlines the humanitarian, recovery and development assistance activities planned for 2011-2015. The assistance strategy builds on the United Nations transition plan (2008-2010) and is closely aligned with national priorities articulated in the Somalia reconstruction and development programme. The assistance strategy for Somalia will be reviewed at the end of the transition period, in August 2011.

59. Meanwhile, the Integrated Task Force review in June 2010 expressed the view that the United Nations incremental approach to the possible transition from AMISOM to a United Nations peacekeeping operation remained valid. The review recommended an adjustment to the benchmarks outlined in my report of 9 March

2009 (S/2009/132). The revised benchmarks are: (a) completion of the training and equipping of a cohesive Somali security force with clear and effective command and control, capable of stabilizing Mogadishu initially; (b) the stabilization of Mogadishu by the Transitional Federal Government forces; (c) successful building of alliances by the Transitional Federal Government with potential clan, religious and militia allies in Mogadishu and in the regions to which a potential peacekeeping operation would be deployed, to establish the foundation and political context for supporting the extension of the authority and control of the Transitional Federal Government beyond Mogadishu; (d) consent of the major actors in Mogadishu and in the respective regions of southern and central Somalia to the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation; (e) attainment of AMISOM full strength before re-hatting; and (f) availability of adequate troops and military capabilities from troop-contributing countries.

C. Strengthening the political process

60. During their visit to the region in early September, my Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and my Special Representative extensively discussed the situation in Somalia with President Sharif in Mogadishu. Subsequently, my Special Representative travelled to Mogadishu on two occasions for meetings with President Sharif and government officials. He also visited "Puntland" and "Somaliland" where he met with the regional authorities and civil society organizations. Both regional leaders welcomed the presence of UNPOS.

61. My Special Representative intensified his consultations with regional stakeholders to continue garnering support for the peace process. These consultations included meetings with President Isaias Afewerki of Eritrea in Asmara on 5 September and with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa on 13 September.

62. UNPOS, the African Union and IGAD have designed a joint regional strategy addressing Somalia's political, security and humanitarian challenges. The strategy aims at enhancing information exchange and coordination of their collective efforts to support the Transitional Federal Goverament. The strategy will also contribute to the implementation of the Gaalkacyo Agreement signed between the Transitional Federal Government and the "Puntland" authorities, and facilitate the implementation of the Kampala process.

D. Progress towards the full deployment and strengthening of AMISOM

63. Following the deployment of a fifth battalion from Uganda and a fourth battalion from Burundi, AMISOM reached its Security Council-mandated-strength of 8,000 troops during the reporting period. Meanwhile, the AMISOM police strength stands at 40 officers.

64. On 15 October, the African Union Peace and Security Council endorsed the new AMISOM force strength of 20,000 troops, with the requisite air and maritime capabilities, in two phases: (a) initially, insert an additional 4,000 troops in Mogadishu; and (b) deploy an additional 8,000 troops in order to expand gradually to other areas of Somalia, in particular those areas controlled by groups allied to the

Transitional Federal Government. It also endorsed an enhanced civilian component and a police component of 1,680 personnel.

65. The African Union Peace and Security Council called on the United Nations Security Council: to endorse, inter alia, the revised concept of operations and newly authorized strength of AMISOM; to authorize an enhanced support package for AMISOM, funded through United Nations assessed contributions, to be availed to the Mission both within and outside Somalia; to impose a naval blockade and no-fly zone over Somalia; to ensure the effective implementation of sanctions against those impeding peace; to approach the issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia in a holistic manner; and to reaffirm its commitment to deploy a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia through the re-hatting of AMISOM with a timeline for this deployment.

66. Noting the recommendations of the African Union Peace and Security Council, the Security Council adopted resolution 1964 on 22 December 2010 which, inter alia, authorized the deployment of AMISOM until 30 September 2011, and requested that AMISOM increase its force strength from 8,000 troops to 12,000.

67. UNSOA continues to deliver a logistical support package to AMISOM. Notwithstanding the generous contributions of Member States, substantial resource gaps continue to have an adverse impact on AMISOM. The United Nations remains unable to reimburse troop contributors for contingent-owned equipment owing to donor caveats associated with contributions in the United Nations Trust Fund in support of AMISOM towards the military component of AMISOM. The lack of predictable and sufficient funding for AMISOM continues to undermine its ability to improve operational effectiveness and may discourage potential troop contributors.

68. UNSOA continued to improve the living conditions of AMISOM troops in Nairobi and bases in Somalia. In Mogadishu, it has erected prefabricated accommodation and other facilities, as well as perimeter security installations. Significant progress was made in building accommodation and other support facilities to accommodate additional AMISOM personnel.

69. The facilities to accommodate AMISOM civilian personnel in Mogadishu were built in conformity with United Nations standards for military forces. However, the current range of United Nations facilities in Mogadishu does not meet minimum operating security standards. Meanwhile, planning for the construction of the minimum operating security standards-compliant permanent headquarters of AMISOM and the level-II hospital commenced during the reporting period.

70. UNSOA continues to provide a sea movement-based supply chain to deliver required supplies and equipment to AMISOM, with some 5,500 cubic metres of material shipped monthly. During the reporting period, UNSOA provided over 60 medical evacuation flights from Mogadishu to Nairobi and South Africa for injured AMISOM personnel. UNSOA has also implemented a comprehensive communications campaign aimed at improving public and media perceptions of AMISOM and the transitional federal institutions, including through a media outreach facility in Mogadishu that also functions as a permanent "forward" team fully integrated with AMISOM.

71. Meanwhile, the newly established United Nations Office to the African Union continued to advise and assist the African Union Commission in planning and managing AMISOM operations.

72. Through engagement with AMISOM troop-contributing countries, including predeployment inspection visits, the United Nations is supporting the efforts of the African Union to prevent and minimize civilian casualties during operations on the ground. In this regard, the African Union Peace and Security Council encouraged the mainstreaming of the draft African Union Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians in Peace Support Missions into the activities of AMISOM.

73. In 2010, casualties to AMISOM personnel related to improvised explosive devices fell more than 90 per cent compared with 2009 levels. Since 1 September, AMISOM destroyed 4,943 items of unexploded ordnance and small arms ammunition, three antipersonnel mines and 43 antitank mines with United Nations mentoring and support.

E. Strengthening of the Somali security institutions and development of a national security strategy

Policy and coordination

74. The United Nations is working on a security sector development strategy which will encompass sector-specific components on security, justice and the rule of law, as well as disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. At the same time, UNPOS will continue to build the capacity of the Joint Security Committee as the main strategic, technical and decision-making body which guides and coordinates the development of Somalia's security sector institutions. UNPOS plans to strengthen the Committee's technical working groups and provide support for the establishment of a Joint Security Committee coordinating secretariat. In addition to the existing military and police technical working groups, the Joint Security Committee has proposed the establishment of a strategic planning and programming technical working group and a justice and corrections technical working group under its directive and oversight. UNPOS is taking the lead in drafting the terms of reference for these new working groups, to be presented to the Joint Security Committee at its next meeting. A piracy task force will also be established under the Joint Security Committee.

75. In this connection, UNPOS briefed the new Cabinet of the Transitional Federal Government on the mission's priority tasks for security sector development for the remaining transitional period. UNPOS is dedicated to providing five core services in the security and justice sector in Somalia: (a) offer strategic advisory support; (b) facilitate and coordinate international assistance; (c) advocate and step up resource mobilization through the Somali Security Sector Institutions Trust Fund; (d) strengthen effective partnerships and synergies with AMISOM, IGAD, the European Union, relevant bilateral organizations, civil society and parliament; and, finally, (e) track and monitor progress in security and justice sector development consistent with the Somali peace process. On 8 December, the UNPOS police unit organized jointly with AMISOM a meeting of the Police Technical Working Group to discuss with the Transitional Federal Government Minister of Defence and key donors in Nairobi the capacity-building needs of Somalia police, including stipend payments.

Military

76. UNPOS continued to assist the Transitional Federal Government in the development of its armed forces in line with the Somali National Security Strategy. Through the Joint Security Committee, the Military Technical Working Group and key stakeholders meetings, UNPOS continues to focus on establishing specialized and basic training for the National Security Force inside Somalia under the framework of the National Security Stabilization Plan. To this end, with support from the international community, efforts continue to rebuild the infrastructure for basic training in the Al-Jazzira training camp in Mogadishu.

77. During the reporting period, UNPOS continued to facilitate the Military Technical Working Group. This is done through tracking and monitoring of the implementation of the decisions of the Joint Security Committee based on priorities outlined in the strategic military working group plan of the Committee. A number of important challenges still remain in building the National Security Forces of Somalia. These challenges include military integration, sustaining stipend payments, handling of child soldiers and coordinating international advisory and training support to Somalia National Security Forces.

Police

78. The United Nations continued to support the development of a professional and accountable police force for Mogadishu. In September, jointly with the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum, UNDP conducted training for the Mogadishu-based Police Advisory Committee in Johannesburg, South Africa, to increase their understanding of police oversight, human rights and policing standards.

79. During the reporting period, 60 officers, 10 per cent of whom were women, attended a mid-level officer training course conducted jointly by the Uganda Police Force and UNDP in Kampala. The training focused on managerial aspects of policing, including financial management, procurement, asset management, human resources, training management, logistics and fleet management.

80. During the month of November, UNPOS, with funding from the Government of Japan, and in partnership with the AMISOM Civilian Police Unit and the Somalia Police Force Directorate, commenced a three-month training programme in basic policing for 501 new Somalia Police Force recruits in Djibouti at the National Police Academy, 25 per cent of whom were women. The main objective was to improve the professional skills and abilities of the Somalia Police Force based on international best practices.

81. The Joint Security Committee Police Technical Working Group continued to hold meetings to follow up on the Committee's decisions and directives. At the meeting on 16 September 2010, it was agreed that UNDP and UNPOS would harmonize stipend payments to the Somalia Police Force through a monitoring system, in close collaboration with the Somalia Police Force. The meeting also recommended the need to elaborate clear organizational change management structure for the Somalia Police Force. Meanwhile, UNDP renewed its letter of agreement with the Somalia Police Force to provide ongoing support for the running costs of key police facilities, thus allowing trained police officers to carry out their responsibilities.

Mine action

82. During the reporting period, the United Nations continued to support the Transitional Federal Government in the development of an explosive ordnance recognition and awareness capacity for mines and explosive remnants of war. This included ongoing recognition training and a four-day first aid course for 57 personnel. In cooperation with the Ugandan explosive ordnance disposal teams, the Government teams destroyed 79 items of unexploded ordnance in Mogadishu. A total of 20 police personnel completed a landmine and explosive threat awareness training-of-trainers course.

Justice and corrections

83. During the reporting period, UNPOS initiated a planning process for the establishment of a correction, justice and rule of law unit to strengthen the criminal justice and correction system throughout Somalia. This unit will support the transitional federal institutions to formulate policies and enforce laws and regulations related to criminal offences. In addition, UNPOS has drafted terms of reference for the establishment of a justice and corrections working group under the Joint Security Committee to discuss, analyse and monitor the implementation of international assistance to improve justice and the rule of law in Somalia. Meanwhile, UNPOS has developed terms of reference for the review of Somalia's justice and corrections system, to be carried out in the first quarter of 2011.

84. The United Nations-assisted legal aid services continue to operate throughout Somalia. In Mogadishu, 139 persons were provided with legal services, leading to the acquittal and release of 49 persons from detention, including internally displaced persons and minority group members detained in Mogadishu Central Prison or in police custody. By the end of September, the UNDP-supported "Puntland" State University had concluded a six-month training programme for 25 serving judges, support staff and prosecutors, including 17 newly appointed judges, while the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime supported the drafting of laws on anti-piracy and transfer of prisoners. Also during the reporting period, a code of conduct for lawyers, judges, prosecutors and notaries public was approved by the Higher Judicial Council in "Puntland".

85. Prison conditions remained harsh and life-threatening throughout the country. Detainees' families and clans are expected to pay the costs of detention. The United Nations completed the rehabilitation of Hargeysa prison to international standards and reintroduced prison uniforms after a 30-year absence. A total of 162 custodial staff in "Puntland" and 200 correctional staff in "Somaliland" received training developed by the United Nations.

Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

86. In the area of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, UNPOS is seeking additional expertise in order to support the Transitional Federal Government to develop a coordinated response to the issue of transitional fighters/defectors in collaboration with AMISOM and other implementing organizations. Meanwhile, UNPOS is also exploring options for establishing a database system for the collection, analysis and management of information as a part of its planning activities for ongoing mediation efforts and for a future disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. Following decisions taken by the Joint

Security Committee, a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration task force will be established under the Joint Security Committee strategic planning and programming working group.

F. Humanitarian and recovery and development activities

87. In September, the polio national immunization days campaign was launched in Mogadishu. Training in Gaalkacyo and Mogadishu was provided to United Nations partners who distributed vaccines to 79 cold chain facilities. There has not been a case of polio recorded in Somalia since March 2007.

88. From September to the end of November 2010, the child health days reached approximately 650,000 children under 5 and over 340,000 women of childbearing age. Meanwhile, primary health-care services were accessible within 1.5 kms from settlements for internally displaced persons along the Afgooye corridor. Key hospitals were supported to provide emergency services, including comprehensive emergency obstetric care in seven regions of southern and central Somalia, with training provided to 1,100 health workers. Essential medicines, vaccines and basic equipment were provided to a network of 800 health posts and maternal and child health clinics throughout Somalia, serving 2.5 million people.

89. In Mogadishu, WFP provided 520,000 people with regular food assistance. In the light of the general increased availability of cereals in southern central Somalia, WFP has scaled back its programming in Mogadishu as of October with a focus on wet-feeding, targeted supplementary feeding and relief programmes for internally displaced persons, benefiting 270,000 people.

90. The United Nations and partners continued to cover gaps in the management of malnutrition treatment resulting from the ongoing suspension of WFP activity in southern central Somalia. Coverage remained at 60 per cent of all affected children. By the end of September, approximately 138,000 children were admitted to malnutrition centres in central and southern Somalia, with 80,000 children benefiting from increased access to monthly supplementary feeding centres. In addition, basic nutrition service packages were provided to over 500 nutrition centres countrywide.

91. The United Nations continued to provide chlorinated water to over 480,000 internally displaced persons and urban communities living in Afgooye and Mogadishu. Pre-positioning of water, sanitation and hygiene supplies as a preparedness measure towards cholera outbreaks was carried out in Gedo, Bay, and Juba Dhexe and Juba Hoose regions.

92. The United Nations distributed over 18,500 textbooks in Bay and Bakool regions, benefiting 23,653 children, 8,013 of which were girls. The construction of 14 classrooms in the settlements for internally displaced persons in Boosaaso was completed, providing access to 1,120 children. Additionally, the United Nations constructed 36 traditional classrooms with water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in 20 schools hosting internally displaced persons in southern central Somalia, providing child-friendly learning spaces for 4,633 schoolchildren, 1,536 of them girls. Meanwhile, access to education was provided through emergency schools for 76,000 school-age children in Mogadishu and the Afgooye corridor.

93. Over 96,000 people were reached with mine awareness messages throughout Somalia. The United Nations Mine Action Service also provided mine/explosive threat awareness training for 26 local and international non-governmental organizations in Mogadishu and the Afgooye corridor. Humanitarian mine action actors destroyed 17 anti-personnel mines, 41 antitank mines and 5,586 items of unexploded ordnance and small arms ammunition throughout Somalia since 1 September.

94. In an effort to build the capacity of local governments to deliver services, capacity assessments were completed for the administrations of Benadir, Mogadishu city, and the Transitional Federal Government Ministry of Interior. A series of rehabilitation works were completed, including three schools, two medical facilities, two markets, a vocational centre for women, a sports ground and a district office in six districts of Mogadishu. Work on all the 2009 priority projects in "Somaliland" and "Puntland" was completed in October, benefiting over 139,000 people.

95. The United Nations continued to improve the food security of the Somali population. Over the past three months, seeds and fertilizer were distributed in southern Somalia; 4,600 farmers were trained in agricultural practices and approximately 1.2 million animals were vaccinated or received treatment. In "Somaliland" and "Puntland", 13 line ministries were trained on water systems management, while 155 kms of canals were completed in southern Somalia. In addition, nine markets and two slaughterhouses were completed. In southern central Somalia, the United Nations is implementing over 13 community-based projects, providing 23,000 people (42 per cent of whom are women) with short-term employment.

VI. Observations/recommendations

96. I welcome the appointment of Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed as the new Prime Minister of Somalia, as well as the appointment of the new Cabinet. I urge the transitional federal institutions to now focus on completing the constitution-drafting process in an inclusive manner and meeting the targets for the political transition that is scheduled to end in August 2011. In addition to the inclusion of Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a in the peace process and in the Cabinet, I urge the Transitional Federal Government to step up its efforts to convince other opposition groups to lay down their arms and work for peace.

97. Foreign fighters and other spoilers who benefit from the anarchy in Somalia continue to pose a serious threat to peace and stability in the country. I urge Member States to continue to cooperate with the United Nations, IGAD and other regional organizations in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1907 (2009), which imposed sanctions on those who undermine peace efforts.

98. Security remains the single most critical challenge confronting the transitional federal institutions. The presence of foreign extremist fighters in Somalia is a constant reminder of the high risk that the Horn of Africa is rapidly becoming the next front in global efforts against international terrorism. I therefore appeal to the international community to provide urgent military, financial, logistical and other support to the Transitional Federal Government, as well as to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the African Union in their efforts to address the situation in Somalia.

99. I acknowledge the important role which the African Union, IGAD and AMISOM continue to play towards finding a lasting solution to the crisis in Somalia. In this regard, I pay special tribute to the AMISOM troop-contributing countries, Burundi and Uganda, especially for the great courage and determination of the troops in a very difficult and dangerous environment. The immense sacrifices which AMISOM and the troop-contributing countries are making in Somalia should inspire the broader international community to do more to help bring about peace and stability in that country.

100. In my last report, I stated that substantial resource gaps affecting AMISOM continue to have an adverse impact on its effectiveness and to possibly discourage potential troop contributors. I welcome the decision of the Security Council on 22 December to approve an increase in the troop level for AMISOM from 8,000 to 12,000, as requested by the African Union and IGAD. I urge that consideration be given to the upgrade of the support package to AMISOM to match the standards of the support provided to United Nations peacekeeping operations.

101. I acknowledge the call from the African Union Peace and Security Council to the Security Council to reaffirm its commitment to deploy a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia through the re-hatting of AMISOM and to urgently establish a timeline for this deployment. While this is still a valid approach, it is important to adhere to the benchmarks outlined in this report before setting timelines. It would therefore be useful for the United Nations, the African Union, IGAD, the European Union and key partners contributing to the restoration of peace and stability in Somalia to jointly conduct regular assessments of the situation on the ground and progress towards attainment of the adjusted benchmarks for an incremental approach to the possible transition from AMISOM to a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

102. I remain deeply concerned about the impact of the conflict on civilians and call on all parties to ensure their protection and remind them of their responsibility to protect. I condemn the launching of attacks by extremists from populated areas and demand an end to these attacks. I also call on all parties to the conflict to respect humanitarian principles and allow the delivery of assistance to populations most in need. I call on the donor community to continue their critical support to the people of Somalia.

103. I reiterate my commitment to ensuring the maximum coordination of United Nations efforts on Somalia, in line with my policy of integration of United Nations operations. I intend to prepare proposals for an integrated United Nations presence for the review by the Security Council in the next few months.

104. Finally, I express my deep appreciation to my Special Representative for his dedication and commitment to advancing the cause of peace and national reconciliation in Somalia. I also pay tribute to the men and women serving in the United Nations and other relevant organizations, as well as to members of the non-governmental humanitarian community, who continue to operate under difficult conditions. I call upon the people of Somalia and the international community to continue to render support to my Special Representative and his Office. Most of all, I call on all Somalis to take advantage of the presence of AMISOM, the United Nations and other international efforts in assisting the Transitional Federal Government to stabilize and rebuild the country.